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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Party Above The State

NEVER before have party interests been permitted to dominate a French presidential election as during the last six days. The course of events at Versailles has become as bewildering to Frenchmen as it is to foreigners. Traditionally the French Republic demands that the head of the State should be an arbitrator above party, and in the past the President has almost always been elected on the first ballot. By custom, too, candidates once defeated, have retired from the contest. But in this year's election both tradition and custom have been sacrificed on the altar of party interest. The various factions, by their behaviour, have given notice that they are more interested in electing a man who will represent their political viewpoints than in finding a candidate most suitable to the presidential office. The effect of these tactics is distressing. French prestige overseas must to some extent suffer, while in France public opinion is likely to become wholly cynical. Without doubt it has been shocked to see the highest post in the land become the object of one of the fiercest and most merciless dogfights seen even in day to day politics.

THE solution to the current dilemma is still obscure. That M. Laniel has finally decided to withdraw from the contest opens up possibilities of a candidate being found who is acceptable to all the principal parties. But this is by no means certain. The Radicals, Conservatives, Socialists and De Gaullists are clinging tenaciously to their fixed ideas of the type of candidate who should occupy the Presidential Palace. The Radicals do not appear to be the slightest bit willing to renounce their support for the veteran statesman, M. Herriot, although he himself has resisted their overtures. On the other hand the De Gaullists have blankly refused to consider support for anybody they consider to be an obscure politician. They are prepared to back M. Laniel, and have done so consistently in the ten ballots that have taken place, but they have indicated no willingness to vote for any substitute who may be put forward in his place. Thus the stalemate is complete, and in the final analysis the Socialists may well win the day and persuade the incumbent President, M. Auriol, to accept another term of office. This, in fact, appears to be the only solution to the problem.

The Christmas Holidays

Tomorrow (Christmas Eve) the China Mail will publish its 20-page issue which normally appears on a Saturday. The paper will be on sale shortly after 10.30 a.m. Because of the Christmas holidays the China Mail will not publish again until Monday, December 28. There will be no issue of the South China Morning Post on Christmas Day, Boxing Day or Sunday. Publication will resume on Monday next. The Sunday Post-Herald will appear this week on Christmas Day.

THE QUEEN LANDS AT AUCKLAND

Auckland, Dec. 23. Queen Elizabeth stepped ashore from the Royal yacht, the Gothic, at 10.35 local time, here this morning—the first reigning monarch to visit this farthest of the British Dominions.

A curtain of low clouds hid the Gothic from thousands of Aucklanders lining the hills overlooking the harbour as she approached. A light drizzle had begun to fall. Streets in the harbour approaches were packed with crowds in spite of the early hour. The Gothic's course into Waitemata (Sparkling Waters) harbour was guarded by 20 patrol boats, behind which were ranged hundreds of yachts and other small craft dotting the harbour.

New Zealanders set out early from their homes eager to greet their Queen at Auckland. Despite the overnight weather warnings, thousands of cars were parked bumper to bumper in all the roadways round the harbour, while on the hillside family parties enjoyed picnic breakfasts in the crisp drizzle. In the heart of this city of 350,000, groups of young people, seated on the pavements, sang as they waited.

The Queen, wearing a head scarf, and her husband watched from the saluting platform over the Gothic's bridge at the Royal yacht made her way through the 2,000 beflagged yachts and small craft lining the approach. Every type of small craft was represented, from ferryboat to graceful yacht. Motor boats sailing close alongside cheered and passengers waved to the Queen and the Duke, who waved in reply.

Barge Explodes

Port Pleasant, W. Virginia, Dec. 22. At least six men were killed, when an oil barge exploded on the Ohio River today, according to reports reaching the Charleston police. — France-Press.

New Turn In Presidential Election

FRANTIC SEARCH FOR CANDIDATE

Versailles, Dec. 22.

Premier Joseph Laniel, Independent, withdrew his candidacy for the Presidency of France tonight amid loud clamour from leading political groups in Congress for a "union" candidate.

The withdrawal of M. Laniel, strongest candidate in the last eight of 10 indecisive ballots, set off a frantic last-minute search by Republican groups for a popular candidate to put up before the 11th ballot opens tomorrow at 9 a.m. GMT (5 p.m. Wednesday, Hongkong time).

The Independents were tonight still debating between two choices, Senator Rene Coty and M. Louis Jacquinot, Minister for Overseas Territories in the present Cabinet.

The Radicals were due to give their views of the choice of a compromise "unity" candidate tomorrow after the Independents have made up their minds.

In the meantime the Socialists reaffirmed strongly that they would continue to maintain their official candidate, M. Marcel Edmond Naegelen, hitherto Premier Laniel's strongest rival. Their price for withdrawing M. Naegelen was the return of the incumbent President Vincent Auriol.

M. Laniel made his withdrawal statement after a meeting with the heads of the groups who had given him his majority, though not absolute, so far. "Since this majority is insufficient to win my candidacy, I wish indeed that tomorrow, as a result of the discussions held today, our groups in the Congress will vote for a candidate who will not owe his nomination to any elements other than those of the national majority in Parliament."

MODERATES

Senator Coty loomed tonight as being the probable choice of the Independent groups as M. Laniel's successor. Both come from the same province of Normandy and both represent the same moderate political thinking of the Independents. And like M. Laniel, Senator Coty sat in Parliament before the war and is linked between the Third and Fourth Republics.

Another factor in Senator Coty's favour was the psychological strain and stress the nation's harried legislators have been going through in six days of indecisive voting.

In the meantime the Christian Democrats (MRP), whose candidate was M. Georges Bidault, the present Foreign Minister, were still without a new candidate but they were believed to be considering putting up either M. Jean-Marie Louvet, the present Minister of Commerce, or M. Pierre Bourgeois, the latter an unsuccessful candidate in the first ballot on the dissident De Gaullist (URAS) group. — France-Press.

AURIOL & HERRIOT

Versailles, Dec. 22. Exhausted parliamentarians trying to find a new President for France, today called on three and reluctant President Vincent Auriol or 81-year-old elder statesman Edouard Herriot to step in temporarily to solve the presidential stalemate.

All day different groups tried to induce the two "lired old men" to take office for at least a short period while the extreme bitterness between the political parties of France cooled. Faced with their 11th ballot attempt to elect a new President to replace M. Auriol, the weary deputies and Senators did not even vote today. Instead, they adjourned the 11th round until 9 a.m. GMT tomorrow.

The balloting has now run five times longer than in any previous election.

The law-makers have already gone up and down a total of 147,200 steps to the voting urns in the Palace of Versailles and walked some 120 miles for the whole ritual.

Their names have been shouted by a brass-banded band 9,460 times. Different groups sought in this interim to obtain agreement by M. Auriol or M. Herriot to take office temporarily. Later a new try would be made.

An offer by Premier Joseph Laniel, front-running contender so far, to withdraw in favour of another Moderate candidate, failed to produce any new name despite a full day of meetings.

One group of his patchwork coalition, 40-member dissident "Union", took the independent Premier at his word, however, and said that they might propose unknown former Vichy Minister Henri Bergasse. He was given no chance of success.

The situation was so farcical that a Communist Deputy came in early for the afternoon session and settled down on a back bench and went to sleep. He left grumbling when the session lasted only 10 minutes in the tapestry hung Assembly Hall of the kitchen wing of King Louis' 14th's original palace. — United Press.

Families Trapped By Bush Fires

Sydney, Dec. 22.

Raging bush fires trapped many persons behind walls of flame in New South Wales today as the scorching heat wave continued into its second day.

At least one person was dead and hundreds more had collapsed from the heat.

Seven families were trapped by the fires near the coal mining centre of Lithgow, some 100 miles west of here. Officials feared for their safety because nothing has been heard from the area since a fire captain escaped by running a gauntlet of flames.

Temperatures in the country centres still continued to hover above the 100 Fahrenheit degree mark, but in Sydney a cooling southerly wind brought some relief.

The heat is ruining late wheat crops and killing hundreds of head of cattle and destroying thousands of acres of grazing and forest lands. — United Press.

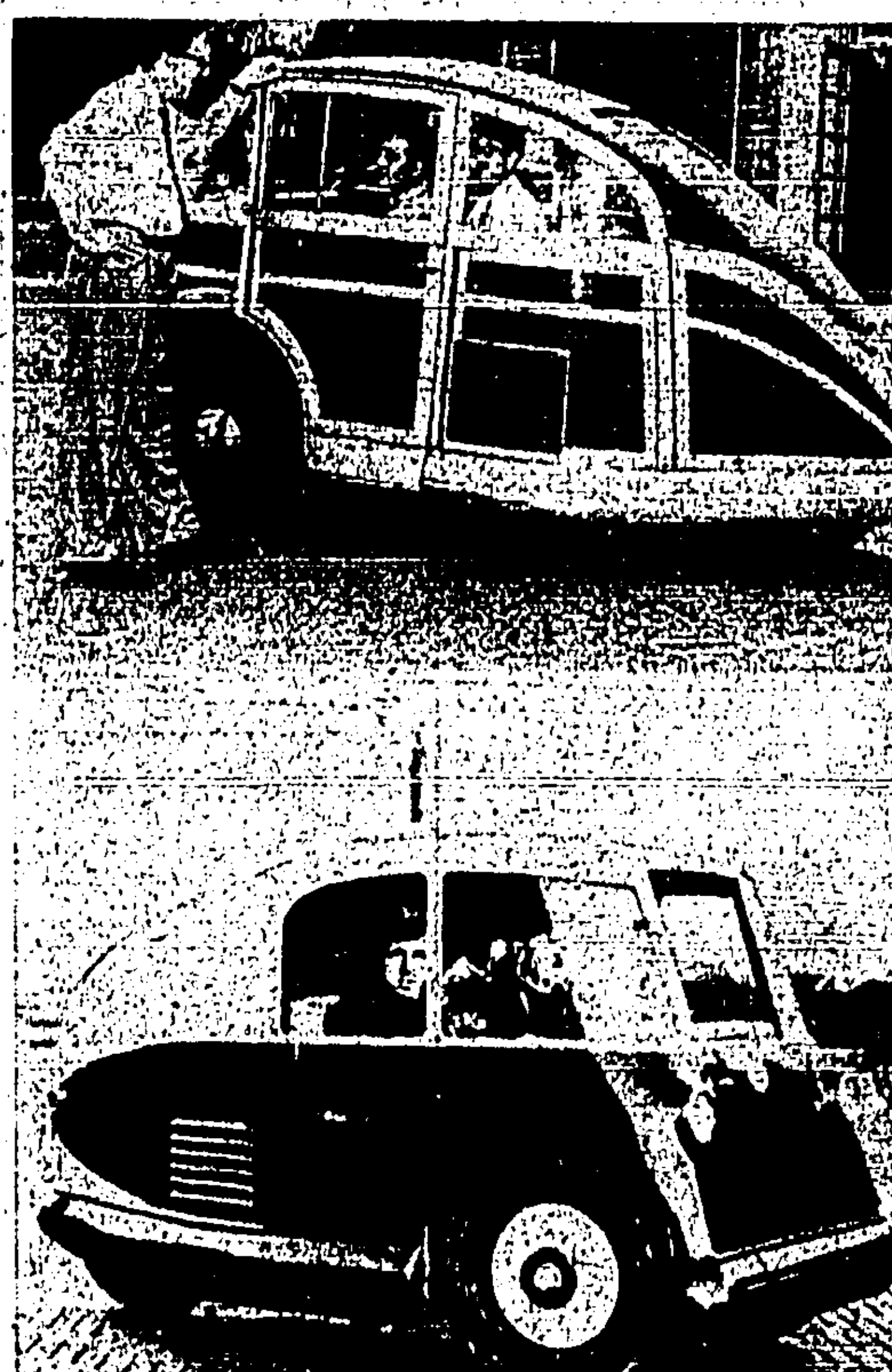
Father & Daughter Electrocuted

Brisbane, Dec. 23.

Athol Andrew Macqueen and his two-year-old daughter were electrocuted when the wire of a child's swing in the house porch cut through to an electric cable running on the same beam.

Mr Macqueen of Moorooka near here received a fatal shock when he rushed out to pick his daughter, falling unconscious on the swing. Her brother Colin, aged four, who had been swinging, was, soaked with shock and burns. — Reuter.

A 3-Wheel Vehicle



The Martin Stationette—the latest vehicle to be seen on the roads of the United States—is designed to sell at an extremely low price. It is fitted with a 24 hp engine, has a cruising speed of 50-55 m.p.h. and has 43 cubic feet storage space besides accommodation for driver and passenger. It is one of the smallest vehicles used on American roads and is expected to prove extremely popular. It is a three wheel job and was invented by James R. Martin. — London Express.

ATOM "BANK" DISCUSSIONS

US Wont Accept "Preconditions"

Washington, Dec. 22.

Mr John Foster Dulles, United States Secretary of State, said today the United States would not accept any dangerous "preconditions" proposed by the Soviet Union for atom peace talks.

He was asked after a luncheon address to the National Press Club whether yesterday's Soviet reply agreeing to private talks on President Eisenhower's atom bank plan contained any "trap."

He replied: "I do not think there is anything in the Soviet note which would mean that acceptance would jeopardise the so-called peaceful stockpiling plans of the President."

"Of course in all of these matters the Soviet Union consistently attempts to create preconditions for a conference which will gain for it many of the results which it would hope to get out of a conference."

"They think we are so eager to have a conference that by offering it, we will pay a price giving them greater advantages than they could hope to get out of a conference."

Mr Dulles declared: "We are on to that game. We are not going to be so eager to have a conference that we would give away in advance the things we hope to accomplish at the conference."

He added: "We are not going into the conference with respect to atomic energy on terms which would jeopardise in advance the President's programme."

Asked if the United States would agree to discuss a ban on atomic weapons as well as an atomic pool in the private conversations, Mr Dulles said the President had not specifically dealt with that matter.

He said the President stated the United States would enter a conference which would be designed to try to end the danger of atomic warfare.

In his speech to the Press Club, Mr Dulles said that the Soviet "rulers' exploitation of their own and the satellite peoples has reached a point where it would be reckless for them to engage in general war." — Reuter.

POSTAL STRIKE THREAT

Paris, Dec. 22.

France faced a partial postal strike tonight at the busiest time of the year, as the Communist-led CGT and the autonomous union federations called on their members in the railway post offices and mail coaches to quit work immediately until 7 p.m. on Christmas Day.

It was not clear how seriously the government's various communications services would be affected, as there was no immediate word from the Socialist-led and Christian trade union federations on the stoppage.

A communique issued tonight by the CGT and autonomous unions jointly referred to the strike as "a warning." It said that the unions' demands had not been satisfied by the authorities since August 25.

A nationwide strike of government employees, including post office, telephone, and telegraph employees, paralysed the communications systems for several weeks last summer. — France-Press.

AIR STRIKE LATEST

Paris, Dec. 22.

The Strike Committee of the civil French aviation industry today decided to continue to enforce the walk-out of the security personnel which has reduced air services in France for the past several days.

The committee decided on its action after a three-hour meeting with the Secretary for Civil Aviation, M. Paul Devinat, resulting in failure to secure agreement on the wage demands.

The committee said, however, that the aviation personnel had agreed to assure the protection of aircraft whose crews had been marooned abroad, or in the French Union, because of the strike, so that they could return home for the Christmas holidays.

The committee also announced that personnel in Dakar, French West Africa, had agreed to join the strike. — France-Press.

Best Production Since 1938

London, Dec. 22.

Britain's miners produced more coal last week than in any week since 1938.

According to provisional figures issued tonight by the Ministry of Fuel and Power, they raised 4,772,200 tons of deep-mined coal and 230,700 tons of open cast—a total of 5,002,900 tons for the week ended 19.

This is the highest output since February 1938 before open cast mining had started when the figure was 5,020,800 tons. — Reuter.

How do YOU rate on a health chart?

If you were asked to assess your own chances of living to a healthy and vigorous old age, what would your assessment be? Good? Fair? Indifferent?

Whether you assess yourself as A1 or C3, whether you are 25 or 70, whether you are housewife or business executive, career girl or old-age pensioner, there begins in tomorrow's China Mail a health series you must not miss.

The most expert medical advice has been sought in framing this series. But it is more than a health guide.

What can you get from this series? Read and learn from

HOW TO LIVE TO BE 100

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"DEAD" MEN RETURN

Rio de Janeiro, Dec. 22. After living for five years on a desert island, four Brazilian fishermen came home to find their "widows" happily remarried.

The newspapers of Victoria, the capital of the state of Espirito Santo, which related the story, said that the fishermen had taken refuge on the desert island after their tanker had been wrecked by a storm. They had been given up for dead but were finally picked up by ship which called at the island. — France-Press.

SOVIET OFFER

London, Dec. 22.

The Soviet Foreign Minister, M. Vyacheslav Molotov, has said Russia would be willing to accept an Indonesian Ambassador to Moscow and to turn be ready to send an Ambassador to Djakarta, the Soviet Foreign Ministry announced today, according to Tass, the Soviet news agency. — Reuter.

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Berria Hate Campaign

London, Dec. 22. Soviet newspapers stirred up another campaign of hate against Beria today and Western observers predicted that his trial and punishment as a traitor might not be far away.

The Moscow newspapers Izvestia and Trud joined the Communist Party newspaper Pravda in reporting a wave of "indignation" meetings at which Soviet workers expressed "boundless wrath" against the former Interior Minister and the men indicted along with him, according to Moscow dispatches.

Western observers in Moscow were quoted as saying Beria's trial and the carrying out of the verdict were "still expected imminently." — United Press.

Freighter Blows Up: 3 Killed

Hart, Italy, Dec. 22. Three crewmen were killed and two gravely injured today when the 108-ton Italian freighter Fernando blew up just off the coast of Yugoslavia.

Radio messages picked up from the freighter Lefina said that its skipper, Gasparo Disovich, and two other crew members escaped unhurt. — United Press.

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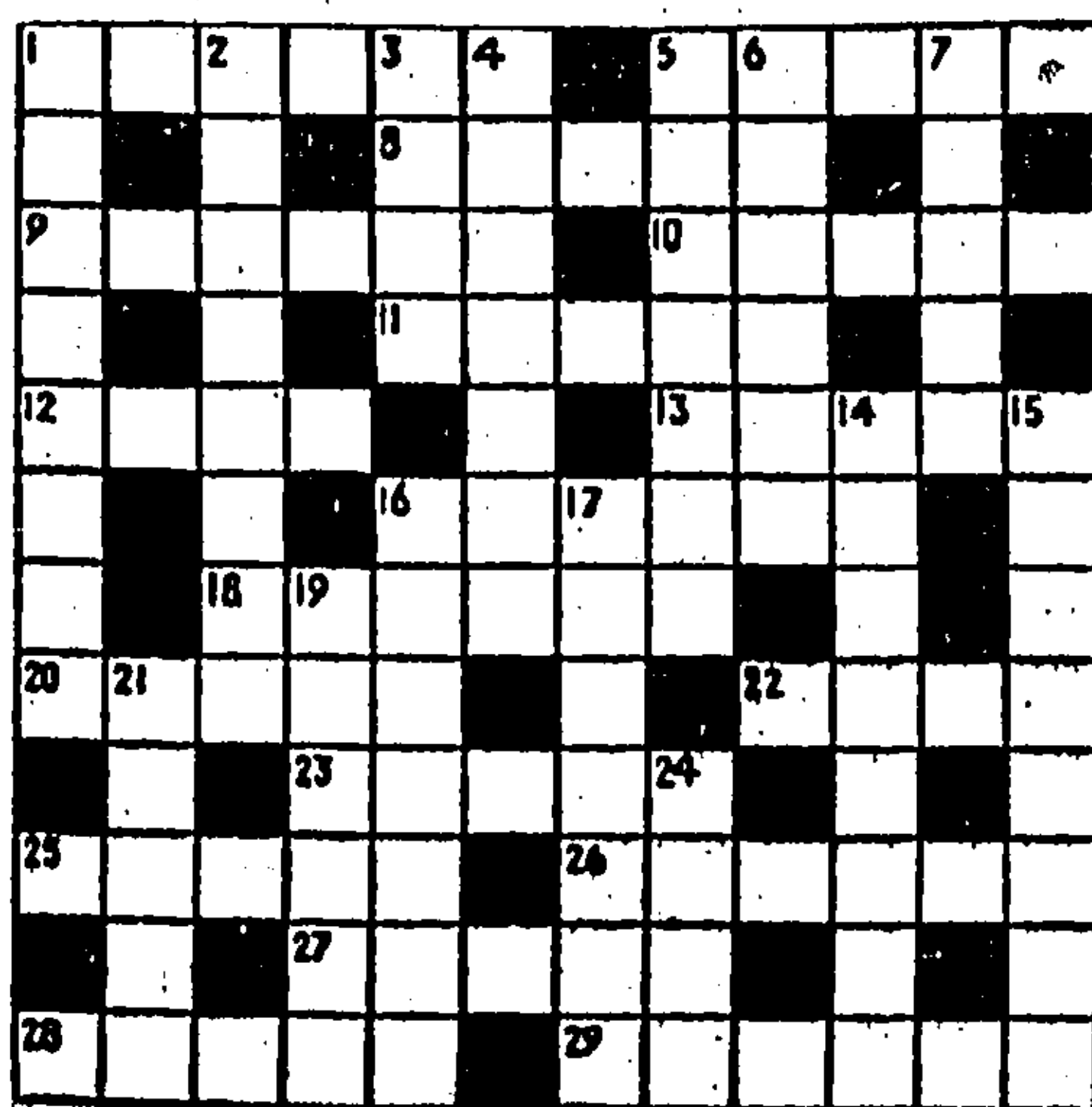
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A British Crossword Puzzle



- ACROSS**
- 1 Disturbance (6).
 - 5 Reposes (5).
 - 8 Added clause (6).
 - 9 Decayed (6).
 - 10 Substantial (3).
 - 11 Pungent (5).
 - 12 Consumes (4).
 - 13 Writing-tables (6).
 - 14 Awaken (6).
 - 15 Expunge (6).
 - 16 Exhausted (6).
 - 17 Conceal (4).
 - 18 Headquarters of regiment (6).
 - 19 Scant (5).
 - 20 Get the better of (6).
 - 21 Royal (5).
 - 22 Entertained (6).
 - 23 Required (6).
- DOWN**
- 1 Stir up (8).
 - 2 Height (8).
 - 3 Extent (4).
 - 4 Earnest (7).
 - 6 Remind (7).
 - 7 Wears away (6).
 - 9 Ruse (6).
 - 10 Hild (8).
 - 11 Pierced (8).
 - 12 Changed (7).
 - 13 Safe (7).
 - 14 Last (6).
 - 15 Chaplain (6).
 - 16 Nutritive (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD: Across—3 Ages, 7 Spare, 8 Idea, 9 Stry, 10 Elevate, 12 Toll, 15 Enam, 18 Gray, 19 Emits, 21 Paris, 22 Abet, 23 South, 26 Robe, 30 Mariner, 30 Ours, 31 Tall, 32 Storm, 33 Deep, Down—1 Spill, 2 Prevent, 4 Green, 5 Gift, 6 Moral, 9 Slow, 11 Amuse, 13 Omit, 14 Lid, 16 Debar, 17 Spur, 18 Grab, 20 Mediate, 22 Also, 24 Amuse, 25 Merry, 27 Opal, 28 Bold.

NO REAL CHANGE, SAYS U.K. Russia's Reply To Atom Proposal

UNWANTED WHALE

Manomet, Mass., Dec. 22. Town officials were wondering how to get rid of one 40-foot whale which washed up on the beach a week ago. The Police and fire departments have balked at the job. The Coast Guard says that the whale is not a navigation menace and therefore is not in its jurisdiction. Health officials will only point to the state law which says "refuse deposited on a beach must be carted away by the property owner." The owner in Florida. —United Press.

Archbishop's Views On B. Guiana Inquiry

Georgetown, Dec. 22. The British Archbishop of the West Indies, Dr. Alan Knight, has written openly to the Press on the question of the three-man constitutional committee due in British Guiana on January 6. The Archbishop's views were given in the British Government's white paper on the suspension of the Guianan constitution. In his letter to the press, the Archbishop said that "it seems quite unreasonable to appoint men of the standing of Sir James Robertson, Sir Donald Jackson, and Mr. Woodcock, and to send them here merely to consider and recommend minor amendments to what must be recognised as a sound constitution." He added: "But it is most desirable that we should have the benefit of their great knowledge and wide experience to help us solve some of the fundamental problems we are faced with at the present time." The Archbishop continued: "Under the present conditions, no constitution has the slightest hope of successful operation." He urged wider terms of reference for the three-man committee. —France-Press.

More Nylons For U.K.

London, Dec. 23. The Board of Trade today announced the removal of all restrictions of importations of nylon stockings to Britain from the sterling area. A spokesman said later, "We do not expect a very large increase in Commonwealth nylons. Malta may be able to sell nylons here if her prices are competitive. The Republic of Ireland should also benefit, and there may be a slight increase in Australian nylon sales here." The Board of Trade also announced that import licences would no longer be necessary for certain photographic equipment from the sterling area and some varieties of Indian hemp and tow (coarse hemp and flax) from any country. The Board said too that licences to import small quantities of synthetic rubber from similar sources for general use on the home market would be "considered" for the period ending June 30 of next year. Hitherto Britain has only permitted the importation of synthetic rubber for defence needs and export orders. —Reuter.

Brazil To Set Up Electric Power Industry

Curitiba, Brazil, Dec. 22. President Getulio Vargas announced yesterday that the Brazilian Government is preparing to establish a national electric power industry. Mr. Vargas threatened to nationalise foreign power firms operating in Brazil because "they do not give us the service we require." Brazil's electric power is largely in the hands of the American-owned American & Foreign Power Co., and the Brazilian Traction Company. Mr. Vargas made the announcement during a speech at the conclusion of a conference of the governors of eight southern and central states. The President said that the proposed government power industry would parallel the nationalisation of Government agency establishments for the development of Brazilian petroleum resources and known as Petrobras, from which all foreign capital is excluded. —United Press.

London, Dec. 22. British officials today cautiously welcomed Russia's acceptance of President Eisenhower's appeal for secret talks on atomic weapons but said the Kremlin appeared to have made no real change yet in its atomic control policy.

Russia's note to the United States yesterday repeated the Soviet demand for the complete abolition of atomic and hydrogen bombs—which has been the main stumbling block in East-West atomic disarmament talks in the United Nations. The Soviet insistence of this point dampened the hopes of the British Government in the past that the Kremlin's willingness to meet privately could lead to any speedy progress towards big power agreement.

Britain which has set off atomic weapons of her own is known to be willing to join in the proposed talks on atomic control, it was learned today.

A Foreign Office spokesman described the Russian agreement to talk "a welcome development." Britain would consult the other Western Powers on the Soviet note which officials were still studying. It would require a "good deal of further study," he said.

"BEAM OF LIGHT"
President Eisenhower's proposal that an international stockpile of fissionable materials should be set up under the United Nations for peaceful purposes was hailed by Sir Winston Churchill in a House of Commons speech last week. He called it a "beam of light" and said it was one of the most remarkable events since the Second World War. —China Mail Special.

Police Alert In Kenya

Nairobi, Dec. 22. The Kenya police were taking special precautions against the possibility of Mau Mau inspired incidents over the Christmas period, it was reported here today. All the regular policemen and full-time reservists are to be on duty, and tonight the Police Commissioner, S.O. Rorke, called on the home guards in Nairobi to play their part. He said that there were rumours and some evidence that Nairobi and other areas might be warm during the next few days.

Mr. Rorke then recalled the series of murders that occurred in the Nyeri reserve on Christmas Eve in 1952, and said: "This being the greatest Christmas festival of the year, it is likely that the Mau Mau will try to make it a debacle from the Christian viewpoint." —France-Press.

London, Dec. 22. Two Japanese scientists, the Secretary General of the Association of Democratic Scientists of Japan, Professors Hidetaka Tuge and Haruo Okada, arrived in Moscow today at the invitation of the USSR Academy of Sciences. Moscow Radio reported. —Reuter.

Uganda King Refused To Act Against Conscience

London, Dec. 22. The Kabaka of Buganda was deposed by the British Colonial Office because he refused to act against his own conscience, the Buganda delegation to Britain said today in a formal statement.

In a 5,000-word reply to the Government's White Paper on the Kabaka's deposition, the Buganda delegation said the Kabaka was faced by a "crucial dilemma."

"The Native Parliament and his advisers had asked the Governor for self-government in Buganda, a province of the Uganda Protectorate. They had also asked that the affairs of Buganda be handled by the British Foreign Office rather than the Colonial Office. The Governor rejected these demands."

R.C.N. DESTROYERS SAIL FOR JAPAN

Ottawa, Dec. 22. The Canadian destroyers Huron, Iroquois and Crusader will rendezvous for Christmas at a United Nations base in Southeast Japan, Navy headquarters announced today. Two other RCN destroyers will be at sea on Christmas Day, the Navy said, steaming toward Japan to relieve ships on duty there. They are the Halda, outward bound from Halifax, and the Cayuga, which sailed from Esquimaux, British Columbia, on November 25. —United Press.

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TRIUMPH AND TRAGEDY CHAPTER 34

PROPOSED MEETING OF BIG THREE

By Sir Winston Churchill

APPREHENSION for the future and many perplexities had filled my mind as I moved about among the cheering crowds of Londoners in their hour of well-won rejoicing after all they had gone through. The Hitler peril with its ordeals and privations, seemed to most of them to have vanished in a blaze of glory. The tremendous foe they had fought for more than five years had surrendered unconditionally.

All that remained for the three victorious Powers was to make a just and durable peace, guarded by a World Instrument, to bring the soldiers home to their longing loved ones, and to enter upon a Golden Age of prosperity and progress. No more, and surely, thought their peoples, no less.

However, there was another side to the picture. Japan was still unconquered. The atomic bomb was still unborn. The world was in confusion. The main bond of common danger which had united the Great Allies had vanished overnight. The Soviet menace, to my eyes, had already replaced the Nazi foe. But no comradeship against it existed.

At home the foundations of national unity, upon which the wartime Government had stood so firmly, were also gone. Our strength, which had overcome so many storms, would no longer continue in the sunshine. How then could we reach that final settlement which alone could reward the toils and sufferings of the struggle?

I could not rid my mind of the fear that the victorious armies of democracy would soon disperse, and that the real and hardest test still lay before us. I had seen it all before, I remember that other joy-day nearly 20 years before, when I had driven with my wife from the Ministry of Munitions through similar multitudes convulsed with enthusiasm to Downing Street to congratulate the Prime Minister.

Then, as at this time, I understood the world-situation as a whole. But then at least there was no mighty army that we need fear.

MY prime thought was a meeting of the three great Powers, and I hoped that President Truman would come through London on the way. As will be seen, very different ideas were being pressed upon the new President from influential quarters in Washington. The sort of mood and outlook which had been noticed at Yalta had been strengthened.

The United States it was argued, must be careful not to let herself be drawn into any antagonism with Soviet Russia. This, it was thought, would stimulate British ambition and would make a new gulf in Europe.

The right policy should, on the other hand, be for the United

States to stand between Britain and Russia as a friendly mediator, or even arbiter, trying to reduce their differences about Poland or Austria and make things settle down into a quiet and happy peace, enabling American forces to be concentrated against Japan. These pressures must have been very strong upon Truman.

His natural instinct, as his historic actions have shown, may well have been different. I could not, of course, measure the forces at work in the brain of our closest Ally, though I was soon conscious of them. I could only feel the vast manifestation of Soviet and Russian imperialism rolling forward over helpless lands.

OBVIOUSLY the first aim must be a conference with Stalin. Within three days of the German surrender I cabled the President:

"I am profoundly concerned about the European situation. I learn that half the American Air Force in Europe has already begun to move to the Pacific theatre. The newspapers are full of the great movements of the American armies out of Europe. Our armies also are, under previous arrangements, likely to undergo a marked reduction."

The Canadian Army will certainly leave. The French are weak and difficult to deal with. Anyone can see that in a very short space of time our armed power on the Continent will have vanished, except for moderate forces to hold down Germany.

Meanwhile what is to happen about Russia? I have always worked for friendship with Russia, but like you, I feel deep anxiety because of their misinterpretation of the Yalta decisions, their attitude towards Poland, their overwhelming influence in the Balkans, excepting Greece, the difficulties they make about Vienna, the combination of Russian power and the territories occupied, coupled with the Communist technique in so many other countries, and above all their power to maintain very large armies in the field for a long time.

Therefore I urge your coming here in the earliest days of July and that we meet together to meet U.J. (Uncle Joe) at whatever is the best point outside Russian-occupied territory to which he can be induced to come. Meanwhile I earnestly hope that the American front will not recede from the now agreed tactical lines."

I doubt very much whether any enticements will get a proposal for a Tripartite meeting out of Stalin. But I think he would respond to an invitation. If not, what are we to do?

I rejoice that your present intention is to adhere to our faithful interpretation of the Yalta Agreements and to stand firmly on our present announced attitude towards all the questions at issue, Mr. President, in these next two

months the gravest matters in the world will be decided. May I add that I have derived a great feeling of confidence from the correspondence we have interchanged?

He replied at once that he would rather have Stalin propose the meeting and he hoped our Ambassadors would induce him to suggest it. Mr. Truman then declared that he and I ought to go to the meeting separately so as to avoid any suspicion of "ganging up." When the conference ended, he hoped to visit England if his duties in America permitted.

I did not fail to notice the difference of view which this telegram conveyed, but I accepted the procedure the President proposed.

In these same days I also sent what may be called the "Iron Curtain" telegram to President Truman. Of all the public documents I have written on this issue I would rather be judged by this.

Prime Minister to President Truman, 12 May 45

"I am profoundly concerned about the European situation. I learn that half the American Air Force in Europe has already begun to move to the Pacific theatre. The newspapers are full of the great movements of the American armies out of Europe. Our armies also are, under previous arrangements, likely to undergo a marked reduction."

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American armies between Elberach and the Elbe, which will I suppose, in a few weeks be occupied, when the Americans retreat, by the Russian power.

All kinds of arrangements will have to be made by Gen. Eisenhower to prevent another immense flight of the German population westward as this enormous Muscovite advance into the centre of Europe takes place. And then the curtain will descend again to a very large extent, I not entirely. Thus, a broad band of many hundreds of miles of Russian-occupied territory will isolate us from Poland.

Meanwhile, the attention of our people will be occupied in inflicting severities upon Germany, which is ruined and prostrate, and it would be open to the Russians in a very short time to advance, if they chose, to the waters of the North Sea and the Atlantic.

Surely it is vital now to come to an understanding with Russia, or see where we are with her, before we weaken our armies mortally or retire to the zones of occupation. This can only be done by a personal meeting between the three great Powers. I shall be most grateful for your opinion and advice.

Of course we may take the view that Russia will behave impeccably, and no doubt that offers the most convenient solution. To sum up, this issue of a settlement with Russia before our strength has gone seems to me to dwarf all others.

A WEEK passed before I heard again from Mr. Truman on the major issues. Then on May 22 he cabled that he had asked Mr. Joseph E. Davies to come to see me before the triple conference, about a number of matters he preferred not to be handled by cable. Mr. Davies had been the American Ambassador in Russia before the war, and was known to be most sympathetic to the regime.

I of course made immediate arrangements to receive him, and he spent the night of the 28th at Chequers. I had a very long talk with him. The crux of what he had to propose was that the President should meet Stalin first somewhere in Europe, before he saw me. I was indeed astonished at this suggestion. I had not liked the President in an earlier message of the term "ganging up" as applied to any meeting between him and me. Britain and the United States were united by bonds of principle and by agreement upon policy in many directions, and we were both at profound difference with the Soviets on many of the greatest issues.

On the other hand, for the President to bypass Great Britain and meet the head of the Soviet State alone would have been, not indeed a case of "ganging up"—for that was impossible—but an attempt to reach a single-handed understanding with Russia on the main issues upon which we

The Prime Minister cannot readily bring himself to accept the idea that the position of the United States is that Britain and Soviet Russia are just two foreign Powers, six of one and half a dozen of the other, with whom the troubles of the late war have to be adjusted. Except in so far as force is concerned, there is no equality between right and wrong.

The great causes and principles for which Britain and the United States have suffered and triumphed are not mere matters of the balance of power. They in fact involve the salvation of the world.

He therefore urges (a) a meeting at the earliest moment, and (b) that the three major Powers shall be invited thereto "as equals." He emphasises the fact that Great Britain would not be able to attend any meeting of a different character, and that of course the resulting controversy would compel him to defend in public the policy to which His Majesty's Government is vowed.

The President received this note in a kindly and understanding spirit, and replied on May 29 that he was considering possible dates for the Triple Conference. I was very glad to learn that all was well and that the justice of our view was not unrecognised by our cherished friends.

On May 27 Stalin suggested that the three should meet in Berlin in "the very near future." I replied that I should be very glad to meet him and the President in what was left of the city, and that I hoped this meeting would take place about the middle of June.

(Continued Tomorrow)

NATHANIEL GUBBINS

AFTER hearing on the radio Evelyn Waugh's answers to intimate questions by three inquisitors here is Nat Gubbins "Frankly Speaking" in his usual replies to Nosy Parkers.

How old are you, Mr Gubbins?

Ninety-eight.

Don't you think it's amazing to be writing a column at that age?

I think it's a miracle.

When did you begin writing?

When I was seven.

What did you write then?

Vulgar rhymes.

Were they very vulgar?

Diagnosing.

Did they shock your family?

Rather.

Do you like writing?

No.

Why?

Too difficult.

If you had not become a columnist, what would you have preferred to be?

A disolute rake.

Haunting bars and night club?

Yes, and speering on rich women.

Why didn't you sponge on rich women?

They wouldn't let me.

Have you ever wanted to murder anyone?

Hundreds of them.

What sort of people?

People who ask silly questions.

Why didn't you murder them?

I didn't want to be hanged.

Do you believe in capital punishment?

Certainly.

Would you care to do it yourself as a paid executioner?

I'd hang some people for nothing.

What did you learn at school?

Very little.

What did the headmaster think of you?

He thought I was the biggest fool he had ever seen.

What did you think of him?

I thought he was the blindest fool I had ever seen.

Do you like women?

When they're beautiful.

Do you like children?

When they're asleep.

Do you like anybody?

Yes.

What?

What kind of woman do you think a man should marry?

A deaf and dumb orphan.

Well, thank you, Mr Gubbins.

Don't mention it.

Stinkentrouser Speaks

AS another Sunday newspaper is publishing the memoirs of Field-Marshal Kesselring, telling its delighted readers how the R.A.F. "wouldn't come up to fight" in the Battle of Britain, I have been fortunate enough to secure the exclusive rights of the memoirs of Captain-General-Lance-Corporal von Stinkentrouser, organiser of sympathy for Germany even before they lost the war, who witnessed the bombing of London, Coventry, and other places from a deep shelter on the French coast.

From this vantage point he was able to see everything that happened, and has had the nerve to state that Germany would have won the Battle of

Britain but for Hitler's interference, and to confirm Kesselring's opinion that the R.A.F. refused to challenge the German fighters.

As nothing is more likely to please all members of the R.A.F., past and present, to say nothing of the millions who endured the German air raids, I have paid even more money for these memoirs than was paid for Talulah Bankhead's life story, stated at the time to be the highest figure ever paid in Fleet Street.

Moreover, I believe that this is a better way of cleaning up the "sex-sodden Press" than just smearing it.

In other words, without even mentioning sex, or printing a single word that might bring a blush of shame to the cheeks of the moralists, I shall be able to publish the dirtiest story of the century.

Anyway, I can think of nothing dirtier than for a German not only to insult the Battle of Britain pilots who made it possible for me to publish anything at all, but to insult their widows and children. Do, please order your copy in advance.

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Boss cross?



serve RICKSHAW



Memo

Be sure to insist on
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Peng-soon & Co. To Tour The United States

Singapore, Dec. 23.
The World Badminton Champion, Wong Peng-soon, and a team of Malayan stars will play a series of exhibition games in the United States early next year.

Wong and his team, who returned here last night from Bangkok after a tour of Formosa, Hongkong and Thailand, made the disclosure that they were invited to tour the United States and arrangements were finalised with "some American individuals" in Hongkong.

Wong stressed that the tour was not sponsored by the American Badminton Association.

Asked to comment on the ban imposed by the Badminton Association of Malaya—he and his team will not be allowed to

participate in future Malayan tournaments—Wong said, "I don't care a hoot for the Badminton Association of Malaya. We are now independent players."

His teammates echoed: "We have nothing to do with the Badminton Association of Malaya. We are not interested in its actions."

THAI CHALLENGE

Commenting on his tour, Wong said he was amazed at the improvement shown by the Thai players. He said the Thais had improved considerably since he saw them last and he predicted that Thailand would soon be a serious challenger for the Thomas Cup.

The World Champion said Hongkong was improving rapidly in the game but badminton was still in its infancy in

Taipei. The Malayan team received a heroes' welcome wherever they went, he said. His greatest moment, he added, was when he met Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

"I managed to converse with the President in Mandarin," he said.—United Press.

Gault To Fight Tanny Campo

Manila, Dec. 23.

Henry Pappy Gault, No. 1 contender for the world bantamweight crown, has been approached to fight Philippine fly-bantamweight champion Tanny Campo late next month, the Manila Times reported today.

The fight, tentatively set for January 30 at the Rizal Stadium here, is slated to go 10 rounds. Negotiations for the bout are being made by a new local promoter, Felipe Donaco.

Gault last month lost to World bantamweight Champion Jimmy Carruthers in Australia.—France-Press.

MUD... AND MORE MUD



Sixty-seven cyclists who competed in a trial near Copenhagen recently found that a heavy rainstorm made it a trial unlike any trial before. This is a typical scene as one of the competitors had to push his machine along when it got stuck in the mud. The spinning wheels sent much of the mud flying through the air.—Express Photo.

SPOTLIGHTING THE THREE-YEAR-OLDS OF 1954

Buffoon Will Go For The Guineas

By JAMES PARK

Mr J. A. Dewar breeds on the best lines, but his rising three-year-olds fell short of the top class. There once seemed a prospect of Buffoon going a long way, but he did not fulfil expectations.

After a promising first appearance at Salisbury in May, he was rested until September, when he beat Man About Town by three lengths.

Buffoon was flattered by the form as Man About Town, drawn near the stands side, missed his break. The jockey tried for an opening but finally had to go to the outside. While that was happening Buffoon was making the best of his way home.

They met again at Newmarket shortly afterwards. Odds were bettered on Buffoon, to concede 4lb, but Man About Town came through in the last furlong to beat him by a neck.

WEIGHT TOLD

Odds were again laid on Buffoon in Houghton week in heavy going, but the big weight told and he was never going like a winner. I did not altogether care for the manner in which the colt performed in the two races at Newmarket. There was not the fighting spirit I like to

see and on the first occasion he carried his head to one side.

Despite that, Buffoon was awarded 8st. 10lb. in the Free Handicap so he has not so much to make up. He is an extremely good looking colt and is by Tudor Minstrel out of Pointe-a-Pitre, a French mare, by Vatel out of Pointe du Vin, by Sourbier, going back to one of the stoutest lines in the French Stud Book.

When Tudor Minstrel went to the stud it was generally thought he would transmit his brilliant speed to his stock. His best winner this year was Buckhound, who seemed to find a mile and three-quarters his right distance.

Buffoon is only in the 2,000 Guineas, for which race he is likely to be trained. He may be a little flattered by his position in the Free Handicap.

Mr Dewar's other colt, Pugilist, failed to train on and is a stone below Buffoon in the handicap. Pugilist has his fair share of good looks but will find his best opportunities in handicap company.

COINCIDENCE

Those who believe in coincidences will not overlook the fact that the half-brothers, Supreme Court and Court Splendour, each won one race as a two-year-old—the Morris Hill Stakes at Newbury in October.

Supreme Court went on to prove one of the best of his age as a three-year-old.

SLOW TO DEVELOP

As a member of a family that seems slow to develop, Court Splendour cannot be ruled out of calculations. It was in the nature of a tragedy that Supreme Court was not nominated for any of the classic races.

Court Splendour is in all three for which he is eligible. He is rather overshadowed at the moment by his stable com-

panion, Landau, but, whatever happens, Court Splendour should not be lacking in stamina.

He did not come into his own until running over a distance slightly in excess of seven furlongs.

The form as it stands does not make Court Splendour "to be anything out of the ordinary and I do not think he has the brilliant finishing speed of his elder relative."

The rising three-year-old may pick up in that direction and, having been given every chance to develop in his own time, may make more progress than some of those above him in the Free Handicap.—London Express Service.

SOVIET SKATERS MAY VISIT HONGKONG

Tokyo, Dec. 23.
The Japan Skating Federation is negotiating with the reluctant Foreign Office for the entry of a 20-member Soviet skating team for the World Speed Skating Championships to be held in Sapporo on January 16 and 17.

The skating body received a cable from its Soviet counterpart yesterday that it intended to send 20 skaters to Japan for the meeting via Hongkong.

The cable also expressed the desire that the Soviet representatives be given visas for entrance into Japan at Hongkong.

The Foreign Office, although reportedly willing to visit the Soviet passports at Hongkong, is said to be hesitant because of the large size of the Soviet team.—Reuter.

ANNUAL MEETING TODAY

BADMINTON ASSOCIATION FACES ITS MOST EVENTFUL YEAR

By "ARGONAUT"

The Annual General Meeting of the Hongkong Badminton Association this afternoon at the Hongkong Cricket Club will not only bring to a close another successful year of badminton in the Colony, but also put the Association face to face with what may well be its most eventful year in history.

Along with the usual items of passing of the statement of accounts and annual report and the election of new officers, the agenda includes a discussion and a decision on Hongkong's participation in the forthcoming South-East Asia Championships and the Thomas Cup Competition.

Two points will undoubtedly be brought out against Hongkong's participation in both these events—the Colony's comparatively low standard and the difficulty of raising funds. The first point may be further stretched by comparing Hongkong's standard even with that of Thailand.

The Colony Ladies' Champion for the last three years, Miss Ulian Khoo, who recently returned from Bangkok after a series of games there, endorsed the opinion shared by Wong Peng-soon that Thailand has improved tremendously within the last four years and is now a step ahead of Hongkong.

TOOK NO CHANCES

Wong took no chances in his match against Thailand's 10-year-old Champion and rightly so. Although the unofficial World Champion won the match in two sets, 15-8 and 15-10, he was obliged to produce his best in both concentration and form.

Even the score was not a true indication of the run of the play, as every point was sternly contested and was not scored until after a succession of thrilling rallies.

However, this reported improvement of the standard of the game in Thailand should provide Hongkong with an excellent example of the best that can be derived by participating in such a competition as the Thomas Cup.

The Thailand Badminton Association did not hesitate to take part even in the first year of the competition. They sustained a crushing defeat in their first round tie against India, but did they get discouraged? On the contrary an unbending incentive was given to the Thai players to do better in the next competition.

As a result they now have the nucleus of a team that will not only be capable of avenging their previous defeat by India, but they also provide a potential threat to Malaya's supremacy.

In their 10-year-old Champion they have a replica of Wong Peng-soon not only in strokes and particularly the backhand flick, but also in attire—right up to the black shorts, white belt and black towel.

Hongkong can never expect to raise its badminton standard and at the same time provide an all-important incentive to its rising players unless it takes a greater part in international competitions.

The question of finance should not pose such a great problem as imagined. In both the South-East Asia Championships and the Thomas Cup competitions, provisions are made for participating nations to receive their travelling expenses from the gate receipts should these be adequate enough, and to share in the net profits if any.

In the past two years a number of the Colony's best players have demonstrated their technical proficiency in travelling abroad even at their own expenses.

LUCK OF THE DRAW

The financial problem in the case of Hongkong's participation in the Thomas Cup may be a little more difficult. However, even this has been lightened considerably by the recent decision of the International Badminton Federation to split what was formerly the Pacific Zone into two zones—Asia and Australasia.

This means that if Hongkong joins the Asiatic Zone, it will have to play only in the confines of Asia and the farthest that it will have to travel will be Bombay. It may even be likely that the draw may result in Hong-

kong having to play the match at home.

FIVE MONTHS

The first round will probably not take place until the end of June, leaving Hongkong almost five months to work out ways and means of raising the required funds if necessary. Should the HKBA eventually fail in their attempt to raise the funds, which is not likely if they work hard enough, they can always consider a walkover and say that at least they have tried.

A fund for the purpose should be started immediately an affirmative decision has been made by the HKBA and a donation list opened. Two other good means of raising part of the funds will be the staging of one special match for the purpose with the visiting Malayan Thomas Cuppers and the holding of a special Ball at the end of this season's Championships.

To round up its plans for a bumper year, the Hongkong Badminton Association would do well to do its utmost to get Hongkong as the venue of the next South-East Asia Championships in 1955.

This application should be strongly put forward at the meeting of delegates of South-East Asia Badminton Associations to be held during the first South-East Asia Championships in Singapore next year.

Hongkong has been repeatedly mentioned as an ideal place for international competitions in view of its location and climate and such a meet will provide the Hongkong Badminton Association with its best means of promoting and encouraging the sport in Hongkong.

In the local sphere, the Hongkong Badminton Association should make every effort to step up its programme of building up youthful talent and spreading the game to a wider following.

The Hongkong Schools Sports Association is doing a great job in taking care of the increasing number of schoolboys and

schoolgirl shuttlers. This year's Schoolboys and Schoolgirls Championships, entries for which close at 5.30 this afternoon, promise to be the "biggest yet."

Consideration will have to be given by the HKBA to extending its activities in other directions—in providing facilities for the great number of unprivileged children who are in sore need of some form of recreation and also for lower salaried workers who cannot afford to join the limited number of badminton clubs in the Colony and who, judging from the number of enquiries received, constitute quite a large group.

A couple of extremely enthusiastic badminton philanthropists have signified their willingness to subsidise a fund to be used for such a purpose, and there will probably be a few more who will come to the support of such a scheme if the Association could start it going.

A Chinese press publicity member in the Committee will be a great asset to the Association in view of the growing popularity of the game among the Chinese-reading public.

MUCH HARD WORK

Such an ambitious programme as laid out will call for a great deal of interest and hard work from the incoming Committee of the Hongkong Badminton Association. In this respect the Association cannot be said to have been very fortunate in the past. Sectional interest, petty jealousies, personal considerations, arm-chair criticisms, and the pleasure and satisfactions of picking out faults, shortcomings and loopholes are as usual the handicaps the Association has had to face in the past year and many a time the fact has been forgotten that "rules are made for the game and not the game for the rules."

As long, however, as the Association puts the interest of the game uppermost, it will not go far wrong and let us hope that most of the Colony's doyens who have so far shown their interest and support in words come up with more concrete action by taking up responsible positions in the Association's activities.

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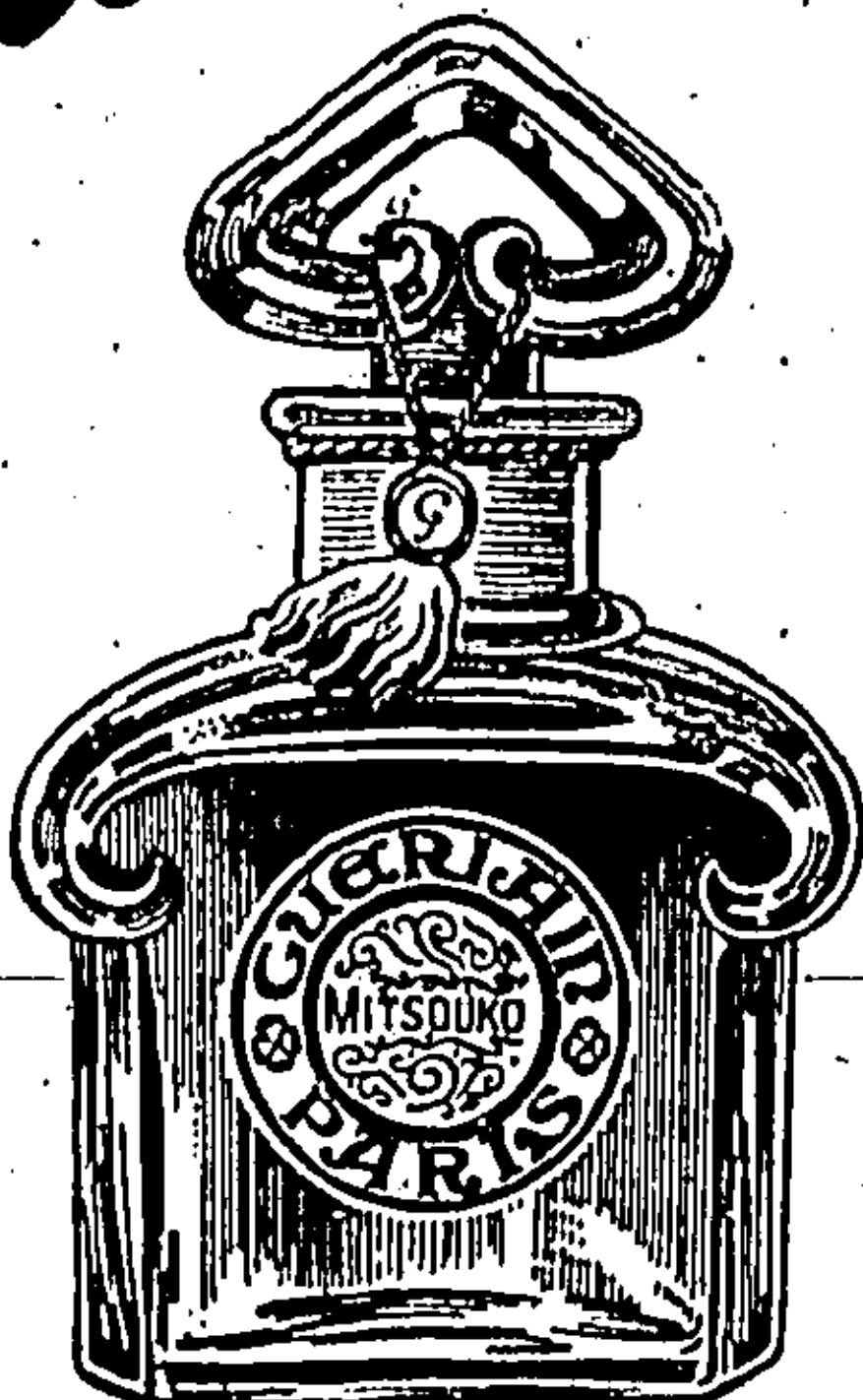


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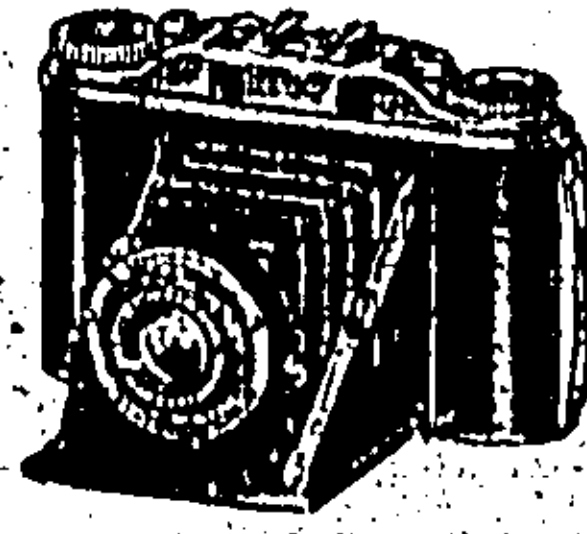
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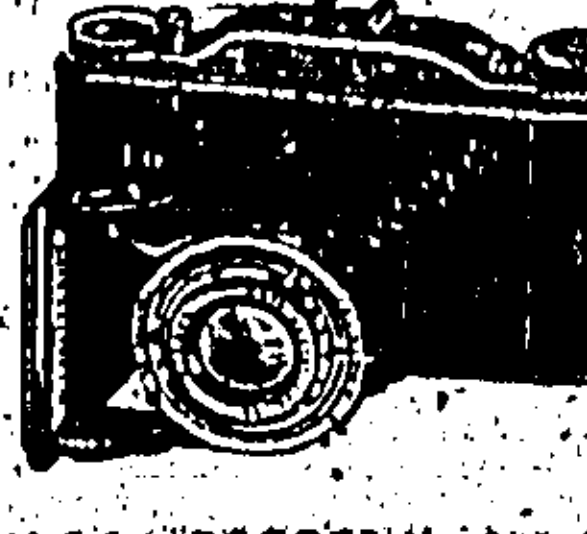


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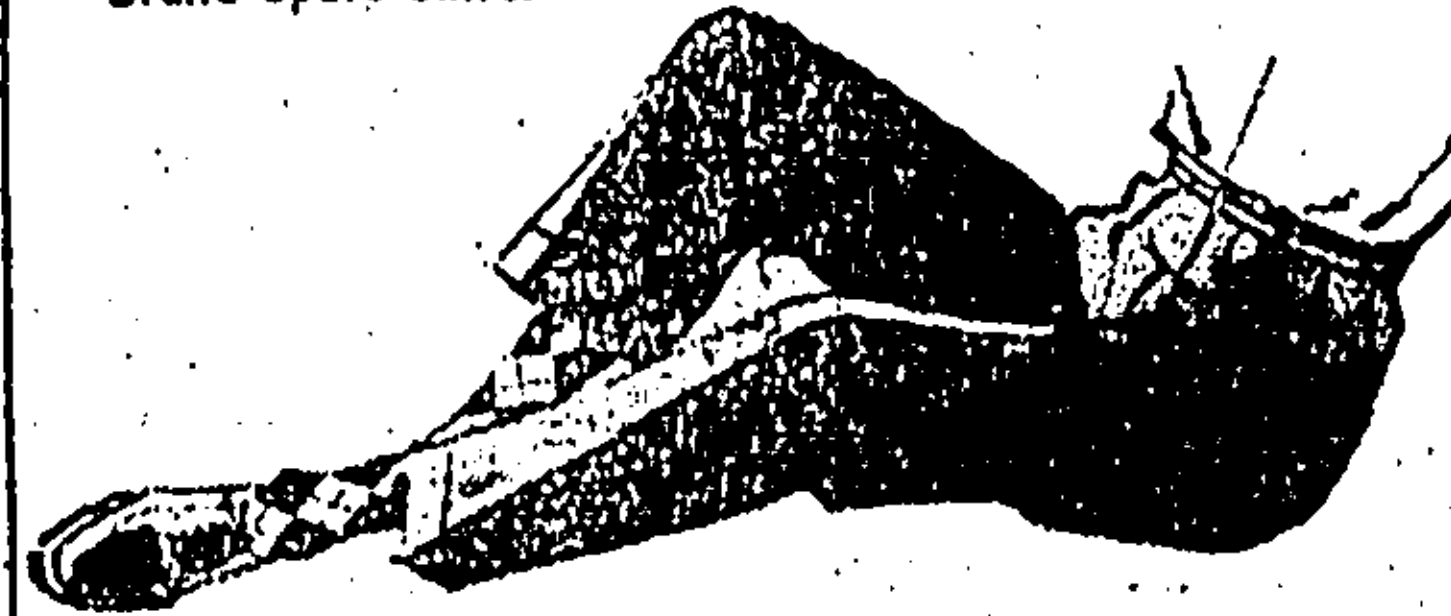
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Sixth Race Meeting Handicaps

The following are handicaps for the two-day Sixth Race Meeting to be held at Happy Valley under the auspices of the Hongkong Jockey Club on January 1 and 2, 1954 (consecutive Saturdays).

FIRST DAY

1. Tatum Day Handicap, Class 7, Fr. 2 M.P.—Aeroplane 144, Al Charol 147, Fighting Spirit 152, Flamingo 157, Whisker 159, Coqueret 159, High Straight 160, Honey Dew 160, Jennifer 167, Marmalade 167, Diver 167, Red Feather 160, Rose 160, Emma 160, Royal Command 165, Santa Claus 167, The Hopeful 165, Thunderbolt 167.

2. Quarry Bay Handicap, Class 9, Fr. 1 M.P.—Attractive Power 150, Freco 149, Kismet 154, Dashing Beauty 150, Eastern Venture 147, Evening Glow 150, First Lady 149, Green Velvet 150, Harvest Moon 150, Ironside 159, Lancel 152, Lady 154, Maple 147, National Glory 142, Queenpots 150, Thunderjet 154.

3. Belcher Bay Handicap, Class 10, Fr. 1 M.P.—Aeroplane 144, Al Charol 147, Fighting Spirit 152, Flamingo 157, Whisker 159, Coqueret 159, High Straight 160, Honey Dew 160, Jennifer 167, Marmalade 167, Diver 167, Red Feather 160, Rose 160, Emma 160, Royal Command 165, Santa Claus 167, The Hopeful 165, Thunderbolt 167.

4. Aldrich Bay Handicap, Class 5, Fr. 2 M.P.—Aeroplane 144, Al Charol 147, Fighting Spirit 152, Flamingo 157, Whisker 159, Coqueret 159, High Straight 160, Honey Dew 160, Jennifer 167, Marmalade 167, Diver 167, Red Feather 160, Rose 160, Emma 160, Royal Command 165, Santa Claus 167, The Hopeful 165, Thunderbolt 167.

5. New Year Handicap, Class 1, Fr. 2 M.P.—Anna 145, Bankfoot 141, Ben More 158, Monticello 142, Gold Star 150, Gold Medal 150, Johnnie 150.

6. Deen Bay Handicap, Class 4, Fr. 2 M.P.—Allied Victory 149, Apple Pie 145, Basil 149, Blue Sky 151, Chief Pilot 143, Debutante 142, English Cabbage 150, Every Day 149, Fida 159, Fleeting Moment 149, Ginkgo 153, Say When 149, Solar Knight 155.

7. Causeway Bay Handicap, Class 6, Fr. 1 M.P.—Ambition 140, American Carrot 154, Blue Bird 150, Caesar 144, Giddup 150, Highlight 150, Hurricane 140, John 150, Lawrence 150, Lily 150, Mustang 151, Never Mind 152, Outsider 143, Pay Day 153.

8. Kuan Bay Handicap, Class 5, Fr. 1 M.P.—Adorable Ada 150, Air Power 147, Air and Graces 154, Alaman 143, Beautiful Star 154, Brivato 147, Cleopatra 157, Forward View 150, Winning Field 151, Rascal 147, Rascal 147, Winkabond King 150, Winning Rush 150.

9. Blau Bay Handicap, Class 7, Fr. 1 M.P.—Com Day 150, Deuces Wild 147, Firestone 150, Fleetmaster 158, Flying Dutchman 147, Fortuna 147, Glimmer 147, Hawaiian Moon 147, Lucky Strike 149, Mabel 151, Radio Star 149, Sals 151, V.I.P. 157, Wild Honey 145.

10. Tylog Bay Handicap, Class 9, Fr. 1 M.P.—Attractive Power 150, Atomic Caesar 147, Easy Day 150, Chief Witness 157, Courtier 157, Exquisite Love 154, Heliophyte 149, Jeanne D'Arc 154, Lancel 152, Pen 150, Force 150, Fortitude 157, Rosemary 147, Tiddington 150, The Gazelle 143, The Great Wall 140, Three Stars 144, Thunder 150.

SECOND DAY

1. Sywan Bay Handicap, (1st Section), Class 6, Fr. 1 Mile—Amber 145, Belle Fonda 150, Blondo 152, Calamity 147, Crown Witness 152, Dreadnought 150, High Stee 153, Javal 150, May Blossom 150, Rebel II 140, Rowanglen 151, Souvenir 143, Trade Wind 144, V-J Day 145.

2. Clear Water Bay Handicap, Class 3, Fr. 6 Furs—Beautiful Lie 155, Chinese Mackerel 150, Field Marshal 150, Glorious 140, Golden Dolphin 150, Helicoptor 144, High Speed 150, Home Builder 147, My Love 147, Potentially 152, Strife 144, Strife 144, Fish 150.

3. Taiwan Bay Handicap, Class 2, Fr. 1 Mile—Black Rose 140, Bonita 144, Concorde 140, Crackerjack 150, Emerald 150, Gabriel 151, Gold Crown 140, Javal 150, Javal 150, Kentucky Lad 144, Marietta 150, Meadowbrook 140, Norse 150, Ping On 145, Squadron Leader 150, Top Secret 150.

4. Hume Bay Handicap, Class 6, Fr. 5 Furs—Blossom Time 150, Boom Town 150, Colin 154, Diana 150, Emperor Delight 150, Hana Do Know 155, Hurry On 152, Jip On 142, Minola 155, Penas 150, Precious Mine 152, Prince 150, Racing Star 150, Sams Again 152, Star-glo 150.

5. Telera Bay Handicap, Class 3, Fr. 2 M.P.—Adorable Atlanta 152, Amaranth 147, Barbarian 152, Cinderella 150, Easy Money 150, First Section 147, Lake Success 151, Supreme Command 147, Tonybri 154, World Peace 154.

6. Sywan Bay Handicap, (2nd Section), Class 6, Fr. 1 Mile—Battleground 152, Eudora 150, Festival 150, 144, Concorde 140, Crackerjack 150, Emerald 150, Gabriel 151, Gold Crown 140, Javal 150, Javal 150, Kentucky Lad 144, Marietta 150, Meadowbrook 140, Norse 150, Ping On 145, Squadron Leader 150, Top Secret 150.

7. Mrs Bay Handicap, Class 6, Fr. 1 Mile—Ann Hing 142, Ben Led 140, Free Kick 150, Garbino 143, High House 144, Pearl of Hong Kong 140, Probability 149, The Stranger 152, United Victory 154, Valerius 152.

8. Sywan Bay Handicap, (3rd Section), Class 6, Fr. 1 Mile—Ben Lawers 155, Boyne 142, Citation 140, Desert Gold 140, Easy-going 140, Javal 150, Moonraker 152, Prairie Moon 144, Sunwood 150, Sunwood 144, Sans About 140, Scrabo 152, Sparkling Eye 141, The Tigris 151.

Percy Bassett To Fight Herbillon

Paris, Dec. 22.
The boxing match between the French Lightweight Champion, Jacques Herbillon, and America's Percy Bassett, has now been arranged to take place on January 2 at the Paris Sports Palace—France-Press.

League Snooker

HQ's best dockyard R.C. 8-2, 1st George Younger, Snooker League match last night.

TOMMY ATKINS'

Army Sports Parade

Top of the Tommy Atkins' Sports Parade this week must once again be the Army footballers. At their meeting last week the Colony selectors conferred great honour on the Army players when five of them were selected to represent the Colony in the first of the forthcoming matches with Pegasus.

Granger, Wells, Longland, Reeves and Bennett go into the premier team while Frazer and Nash will play in the second game of the series.

Further honour has been added by giving the captaincy of the Hongkong Select to Frazer and those who know him well think that he is just the man for the job. Casey, the Army right back who has already played against Pegasus in civilian life, is picked in the reserve selection for the second game.

The selectors of the Great Britain team which is scheduled to meet China at the Hongkong Football Stadium on Saturday have given seven of the team places to Army players.

The accumulation of honours which has come to the team has raised considerable enthusiasm in Army circles and there is sure to be a big Service support at the various games in which the soldier soccerites are involved.

The organizers of the finals of the Army Tennis Championships at the Hongkong Cricket Club ground last week must have been disappointed in the size of the crowd that turned up to see such an important event on the Army sports calendar. The standard of tennis was really good and the spirit of the various competitors was worthy of a much better turnout.

The five sets final of the singles competition was an excellent contest and in an environment of greater crowd enthusiasm it would have been a real top line tussle.

AGAIN THE QUESTION

Recent happenings in the New Territories Army Cycling Association have once again raised a point that has often been discussed in high sports circles.

The point at stake is 'Does the young soldier try to become proficient in too many different sports rather than concentrating on his own special branch?' I have heard this subject discussed in many places and it would seem that the recent experience of Todd-White, the brilliant young cyclist of the Welch Regiment, gives support to those who say that the soldier does try too many different things.

Todd-White started off this season in magnificent form. For a long time it seemed that he was very nearly unbeatable under local conditions but suddenly it became obvious to those who understood the sport that his cycling form was deteriorating.

He still managed to hold his own, but as the standard of the opposition improved he could not call on that important athletic reserve which is so necessary in top level competition. He started to lose races and eventually came an event when he had to drop out part way through.

Investigation showed that he had been trying to mix cycling and cross-country running... and he has found to his cost that it was not a successful mixture.

I believe that certain similar types of sports can be mixed but I would be glad to hear the opinion of the experts on the subject.

WELL EARNED

Army rugby circles gave team captain George a suitable and worthy earned ovation at the end of the match against the RAF on Saturday.

This was his last game before his departure from the Colony and he marked the occasion with an outstanding display... one which he has not often bettered in his excellent contribution to our sporting fare.

Nobody has appreciated better than the players just how important his contribution has been to the success of the team and they showed their approval of his grand play by carrying him shoulder high from the field.

We wish him well on his return home... and envy the side that will have the benefit of his brilliant play and captaincy.

He will be hard to replace in the Army team in this Colony. Last week I paid compliment to the 50th Field Engineers on their hat trick of major achievements in recent sporting competitions. Now it is my pleasure to add another notch to their tally.

Their thrilling effort in winning the Colony 1953 Cross Country Team Championship brings further honour to this fine unit... and to get three runners in the first five placings was indeed a first rate performance.

Calling Sgt. W. Darby, a couple of weeks ago I reported in this column that I had

received a letter from some young soldiers who suggested that we should have an Army Championships in both billiards and snooker.

Your effort in connection with the organizing of the Colony Championships has not passed unnoticed by the enthusiasts and they are forward with a suggestion that you might like to take the first steps in getting a similar competition organized in the Army.

Personally I think it is an excellent idea to have these competitions and I know that since the suggestion was published here there has been a lot of favourable comment in all types of military messes. Many officers and known to be willing to take part if the Championships can be arranged. Passed to you, Sgt. Darby.

WORTHY WINNER

The winning of the Colony Individual Cross-Country Championship by young Gnr. Aden has brought much satisfaction to his immediate connections who were confident that he would win one of the big events before the season was over.

His effort on this occasion was quite outstanding. He was up against a top-notch field but his consistent running and skilful judgment brought him home a clear 4.8 seconds ahead of his nearest rival... a worthy and popular winner.

The next monthly meeting of the Golf Association takes place at Fanling next Wednesday and will be a Hidden Bogy Competition. Golfers in the Royal Navy and Royal Air Force are reminded that they will be welcome to participate. As this is the last meeting this year a big turnout is requested.

The early rounds of the Novices' Boxing Championships at Fanling have shown that there is still a lot of fighting spirit in the young soldier. The Boxing on Monday and Tuesday was very good and the finals this afternoon should be thrilling affairs. Those who go along to see the fighting should keep a look out for Williams, of the Royal Norfolk. Here is a young fighter who can really hit.

The Army football team is about to lose one of its best and most popular players, Gnr. Len Casey, who is due to return to the United Kingdom in the very near future. Although he is leaving the Colony I am told that we should keep the name in mind as there is likely to be big news... football news... about this young man in the very near future.

FIT AND READY

I have received a letter from the brilliant Army boxer, L/Cpl. James of the REME. In this column on December 3 I stated that the long awaited James-Lucas return fight had been called off as neither of the boxers were fully fit.

James has asked me to state that he was fit and ready to fight at the Mission to Seamen but had been informed by telephone that the fight was off. He was given no reason for the cancellation.

James tells me that he is due to return home in the near future and that he would participate in the fight to have a chance to meet Lucas once again so that he can have a chance of wiping out the points decision the Airman scored over him in the Earl Halg Fund Show.

I am glad to be able to put James' remarks before you and I am sure that we all look forward to seeing him in action before he leaves the Colony. He has shown himself to be an excellent fighter and a meeting with Lucas would be a fitting climax to the many thrilling fights he has had here.

SNIPPETS: Kingsmen Buckley and Luckton were out with the Army soccer team on Saturday and created a good impression... Dowling still at the top of the bowling averages... Army cricketer Fred Catley doing well for KCC since his return to the Colony... Still no claimant for that bottle of whisky that goes to the first Army golfer doing a hole in one... one of the best Major Unit Soccer matches of the season is down for decision this afternoon. 7 RTR will be in action against 1st Welch.

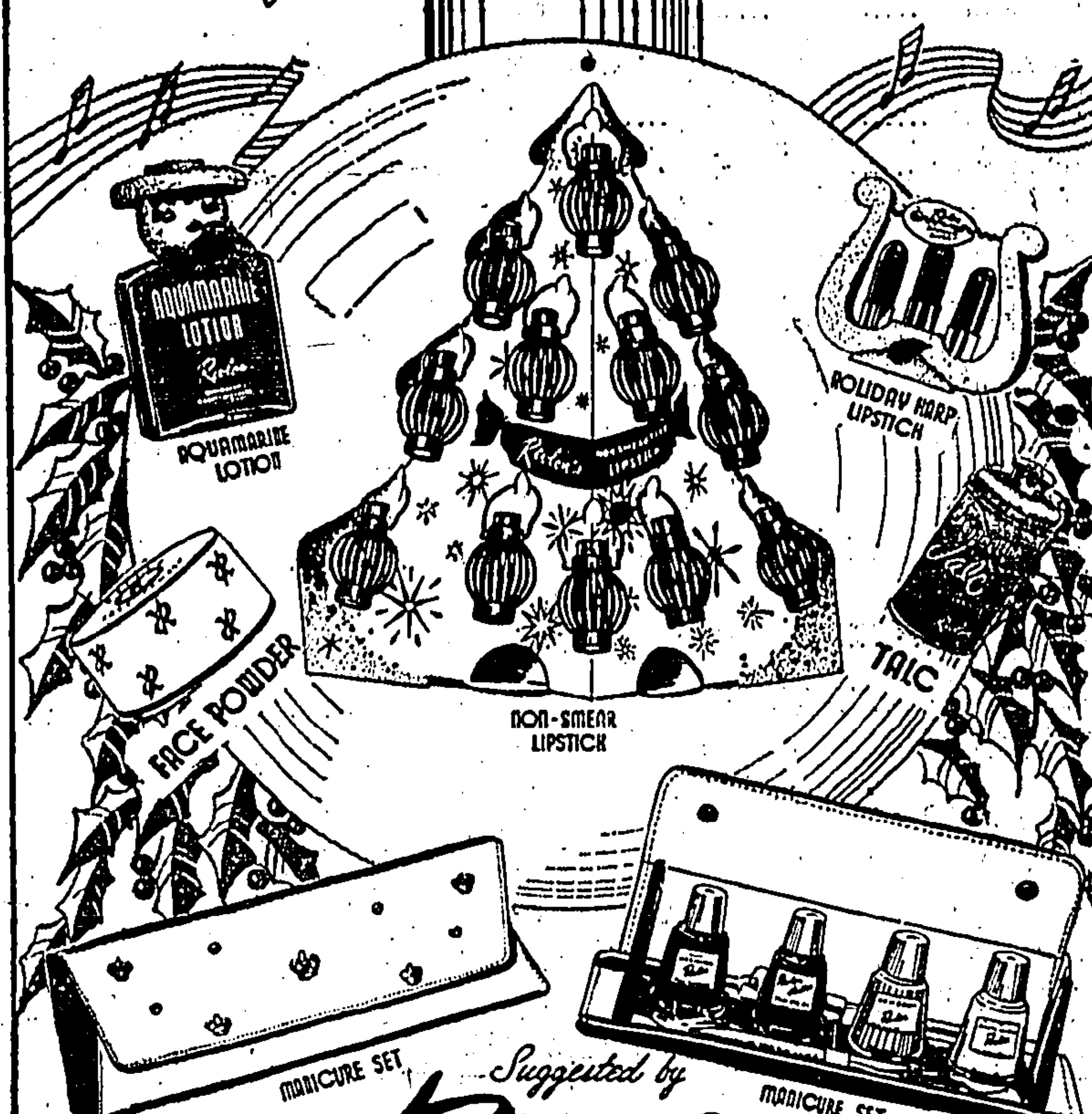
AL BOURKE RETIRES

Melbourne, Dec. 22.
The Australian Middleweight Champion, Al Bourke, today announced his immediate retirement from boxing, according to the Melbourne Herald.

There does not appear to be any regular work in the fight game for me, Bourke told the Herald, which added that Bourke intended to turn to farming.

Bourke, who is 25, has had 43 contests, 20 wins, one draw and three defeats—Reuter.

Gay and Glistening Gifts for Christmas



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JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Railway Lover

ALMOST the only section of the community, I suppose, able to regard a Christmas rail strike with complete indifference are those who regularly appear in the docks of London's courts.

They travel little and then, as a rule, in plain, dark vans, with policemen for chauffeurs; they neither receive nor send much in the way of mail, and where food is concerned, they live off the country, whenever they happen to find themselves.

Of course, there are exceptions. Men like Raymond, Raymond would miss the railways badly if there were none. What attracts him mostly to this way of travel is that it can be paid for retrospectively not with money, which is so hard to come by, but with a short prison sentence.

JOURNEY'S LOG

IF there were many like him, all transport concerns would have to quote alternatives to suit his kind. Air fares would cost so much in sterling or, alternatively, so many weeks in gaol. Competition on the North Atlantic shipping run would show itself in cut-rate prison sentences for stowaways.

At stations up and down the country Raymond has been in trouble for trying to travel free.

At Yarmouth (Vauxhall), Lincoln (Central), Salisbury, to name three stations he has lately used, Raymond has stepped from a train and cheerfully confessed at the ticket barrier that he had neither ticket nor the price of one from where he had come.

RAYMOND'S FARES

HE has been charged for this at Yarmouth, they sent him to prison for one month; at Lincoln settled for 28 days. At Salisbury, on the softer-hearted Western Region, the "fare" demanded was only a fortnight.

The other day, Raymond went to the station at Bedford (Midland Road) and took a platform ticket to St. Pancras.

"I'll want 7s. 4d. from you," an inspector later told him. "Haven't got it," Raymond said. "Your name and address."

"Don't have an address," Raymond answered. It was true enough.

At the Clerkenwell court, next morning, Raymond, a tall, bronzed, man of 26, pleaded guilty to defrauding the railways to the tune of 7s. 4d.

HIS TERMINUS

"THIS" man, said a police officer, to Mr. T. F. Davies, the magistrate, "was working as a labourer in York. His pay was £10 a week, and he decided to come to London to look for a better job. He says he hitch-hiked as far as Bedford, then took a train."

"What does all this mean?" the magistrate asked Raymond. "If you came to this money, haven't you got 7s. 4d. for a railway fare? Have you got a kink about travelling on the railways without paying? What's the point of it all?"

"I'd no money," Raymond said, with a shrug and a smile.

"But bless my soul, you'd been earning £10 a week, and had only yourself to keep," said the magistrate. "Many men keep families on that amount and less."

DESTINATION

RAYMOND smiled, as if to say such men must be fools. "Go to prison for a month," the magistrate ordered. Raymond went off with a queer, crooked, private smile. One thing, his smile said, the rail strike should be settled by the time he was free to travel again.

Meantime, his expression seemed to say, what a nice change it would make if police and prison wardens, and magistrates, would sometimes go on strike. And if they were to be joined by ticket inspectors, who also, indirectly, represent the law, well, then life would become very tolerable indeed.

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Jolliffe Denied Christmas Request

Manila, Dec. 23. Canadian businessman William Ernest Jolliffe was denied permission to spend Christmas with his family in Hongkong yesterday pending the termination of his trial here for attempted gold smuggling.

Judge Bienvenido Tan said he personally favoured granting Jolliffe's request if only for an act of Christian charity, but expressed regret that to do so probably would run counter to local laws.

Despite the state prosecutor's vigorous objection to allow the Canadian-born Jolliffe to spend Christmas in Hongkong, however, Judge Tan said he would study the matter further. The defence counsel manifested a willingness to post a bond in addition to the present \$5,000 bond under which Jolliffe has been temporarily released, so he could be with his family.

FAST TRIAL

Jolliffe, who was formerly a member of the Canadian Trade Commissioner's Office in Hongkong, was allegedly caught with over \$17,000 worth of gold bullion as he was about to embark for Hongkong on December 7.

The defence lawyers yesterday afternoon rested their case in a fast trial which started on Monday. The prosecution and defence were given 24 hours to file their respective supporting memoranda, and Judge Tan was expected to hand down his decision after Christmas.

Jolliffe claimed in his defence that he was ignorant of Philippine laws on gold shipments from the country. But he stoutly denied that he tried to bribe with \$15,000 a deputy customs collector in Manila, whom he claimed by the latter, to quash the case. However, Jolliffe admitted ownership of the gold bullion seized from him. —France-Press.

Close Watch On Manila Carolers

Manila, Dec. 23. Christmas carolers in Manila and suburbs are being closely watched by army operatives as the intelligence service reported that Huk Communists bearing guitars, violins, maracas and other musical instruments have infiltrated from the province as cumbancheros (Latin-American styled musicians).

This novel way of coming to the metropolitan area appeared to have been employed by the dissidents from the start of the Yuletide season. Posing as cumbancheros the dissidents passed army check-points unobserved.

Intelligence sources said the Huk resorted to this method because of the rigid army surveillance which disrupted the dissident communications system. However, no link has been seen yet by army sources between the infiltrating Huk and members of the dissident assassination squad with the supposed mission to liquidate President-elect Ramon Mag-saysay and other government officials. —France-Press.

Right To Shout Back Ruling

Singapore, Dec. 23. Policemen about at the general public, so it's fair enough for the individual to shout back occasionally. Singapore Magistrate A. Wahab Ghows made this observation in court here when he acquitted a young man of disorderly conduct in shouting at and arguing with the police. The Magistrate added: "I do not see why police officers should be so sensitive when the public shouts back at them. Who do they think they are?" —Reuter.

This Steer Easily Won 1st Prize



Singing & Dancing Greets "Come Home" Broadcast To POWs

Panmunjom, Dec. 23. American and South Korean non-repatriate prisoners sang loudly and danced around when Major Edward Moorer began a "come home" broadcast to Americans this morning. It was the United Nations final attempt to coax Americans home on the last day of the 90-day explaining period.

The broadcast urged Americans who desired repatriation to ask Indian guards standing nearby to take them from the compound.

Major Moorer, who comes from Tacoma, Washington, told the prisoners that the United Nations Command believed some of them were being forcibly prevented from expressing their free will and now was the chance for them to ask for repatriation without danger.

There was a slight delay in the start of United Nations explanations when the Neutral Repatriation Commission subcommittee, including an attractive Polish blonde, objected to part of the messages to be broadcast to United States prisoners. Major Michael B. McNabb, of Peebles, Scotland, to broadcast to the lone British, Marine Andrew Condron, and Lieutenant-Colonel Chol Kyuk Kyon to broadcast to Koreans.

The start of the tape-recorded message was the signal for a wild demonstration on the part of South Korean prisoners. Some of the Americans joined in a wild dance and started chanting. The broadcast started at 11:09.

LAST ATTEMPT

Earlier Communist explanations began their last attempt to win back some of the North Korean and Chinese non-repatriated prisoners.

Four Communist explanations are scheduled to interview 41 North Koreans who have requested that they be sent to a neutral country.

In his broadcast Major Moorer told American prisoners that the United Nations Command believed that some of them wanted to return home but were being forcibly prevented from expressing their free will by fear, threats and strong-arm methods of certain of your fellow prisoners.

The explainer said the United Nations team would wait half an hour for prisoners to decide if they wanted to return.

"With the protection afforded by Indian guards, you are free to make your choice," he added. —Reuter.

HIS FIRST JOB

London, Dec. 22. A Foreign Office spokesman said today that the first job of the British Charge d'Affaires in Iran, Mr. Dennis Wright, would be to "make contacts with the Persian government."

Asked about the nature of the mission of the new Charge d'Affaires, the spokesman said: "It is not possible for the moment to look too far ahead." Answering a question as to whether Mr. Wright would submit to the Iranian government precise proposals concerning the oil conflict, the spokesman said: "He will not have any plan to put on the Persian government on behalf of Her Majesty's Government at the present time." —France-Press.

SEQUEL TO HK ARREST

Kuala Lumpur, Dec. 23. Chong Chap-hin, alias Ah Kue, who was arrested in Hongkong and flown out to Malaya, was found guilty here of being in illegal possession of a firearm from October 1951 to January 1953.

The prosecution said Chong admitted being a member of the Selangor State Communist Party.

Sentence has been postponed until Thursday while the court established Chong's correct age.

Under the Emergency regulations here he faces a possible death sentence. —Reuter.

HUNGER STRIKE

Georgetown, Dec. 22. Five interned political leaders in British Guiana have gone on a seven-day hunger strike in protest against "arbitrary imprisonment imposed by the Governor," Sir Alfred Solague. It was learned here on Tuesday. Among the five was the former Minister of Communications, Mr. Sydney Kingstone, who was dismissed with Dr. Cheddi Jagan earlier this year. —France-Press.

This magnificent 9 cwt steer, called Glamorous Night, easily won a first prize at the Smithfield Show held at Earl's Court recently. On show were 1,500 animals and 370 machinery stands. —London Express photo.

HIS LEGAL RIGHTS AT ISSUE

Washington, Dec. 22. An Appeals Court had under consideration today the case of Robert W. Toth, 22, who was flown to Korea for an Air Force court-martial several months after he had been discharged from the service.

The young Pittsburgh steel worker was accused of murdering a Korean civilian. He is now back at his old job while lawyers and judges argue and meditate over his constitutional rights.

Federal Judge Alexander Holtzoff, the first jurist to hear the case, found the Air Force had no authority to rush Toth to Korea without a hearing and last August ordered him brought back. The Government took the case to the United States Appeals Court.

Yesterday, Mr. John J. McGrath, Pittsburgh attorney, told the three-man panel that once Toth became a civilian, "he was entitled to the full protection of the Constitution."

"As a civilian he should be entitled to an indictment by a Grand Jury," he said.

Under questioning by Circuit Judge E. Barrett Prettyman, Mr. McGrath agreed that no US Grand Jury would have jurisdiction over a crime committed in Korea. Therefore, he said, under the circumstances Toth cannot be tried at all.

The Air Force was acting under a section of the Military Code which permits the arrest of ex-Servicemen for certain serious crimes committed while in uniform. Mr. McGrath claims that this section is unconstitutional.

Mr. Oliver Gasch, Assistant U.S. Attorney, contended that the civil and military systems of justice did not overlap. In enacting this particular provision, Mr. Gasch argued, Congress was trying to make sure that persons who were guilty of offences while in the service would not escape punishment merely by getting out.

He said that if military justice was the appropriate method for handling a particular case, the place of trial should not make any difference. "Trials must take place where the witnesses are," he said. —United Press.

Malaya's Trade Declines

Kuala Lumpur, Dec. 23. Malaya's external trade dropped—41,000,000 Straits dollars (about \$4,783,333) in November compared with October. Imports were about \$10,800,000 against \$124,000,000 in October.

Found Guilty Of Murder: Mercy Recommendation

Unanimously found guilty by a Jury of murder, Chan Kau, alias Chan Kai, 26, was this morning sentenced by Mr Justice C. W. Reece, Puisne Judge, at the Criminal Sessions to death by hanging.

In returning their verdict, the Jury of six men and one woman added a recommendation for mercy on the grounds that the accused had no prior intention of killing.

They had deliberated for one hour and 15 minutes before announcing their verdict.

In passing sentence, Mr Justice Reece told the accused that the Jury had made a recommendation for mercy and he would pass that recommendation on to H.E. the Governor for his consideration.

On hearing the death sentence passed and as accused was led away to the cells from the dock by warders, the accused's wife broke down and sobbed bitterly and was assisted from the Court by friends.

It was the case for the Prosecution that the accused fatally slashed at Chan Fook, a Naval Dockyard employee, with a broad knife in Argyle Street, near the Sun Wah Theatre, on the evening of July 23, when it was alleged that a gang of men laid in wait for another party.

The Crown contended that the deceased was killed as a result of a feud arising from friction between two factions of Dockyard labourers employed on Stonecutters Island. The deceased was associated with one of the factions, but the accused was not, but was friendly with members of the other faction.

The Prosecution was conducted by Mr W. A. Blair-Kerr, Senior Crown Counsel, assisted by Det. Sub-Insps. J. E. H. Hadden and Det. Sub-Insps. Jones. The accused was represented by Mr Leo Wing-keat, instructed by Mr F. H. Kwok.

At the end of the case, Mr Justice Reece excused the Jury from further service for three years.

SUMMING UP

In his summing up Mr Justice Reece told the Jury that, if they believed the statement the accused made to the Police on his arrest, it was a complete confession of his crime and on the statement alone, in the absence of anything the accused might say to explain it away, they were entitled to convict him of murder.

The statement was taken down by the Police and finished off by the accused himself and no challenge had been made as to the manner in which the statement was taken.

If the Crown had established the Jury that death was caused by the voluntary act of the accused with that necessary intention to do it from which malice could be implied then the Jury were at liberty to find the accused guilty unless they found something in the evidence to reduce it to the lesser crime of manslaughter or to reduce it altogether to such a set of circumstances as would warrant them in law to say he was not guilty.

Dealing with the defence case, Mr Justice Reece said that as regards the statement that there was no intent to do grievous bodily harm, he would say that when a man used such an instrument as the broad-knife displayed in the manner in which it must have been used to cause such injuries which almost decapitated the deceased the man must have intended to cause grievous bodily harm because the law presumed every man to be responsible for the cause of his actions.

NO EVIDENCE

The Judge decided there was no evidence to support the defence of justifiable homicide if the Jury believed the Crown witnesses. These testified that the deceased was attacked while walking innocently about his normal occupation. The only case in which one could talk of justifiable homicide was if the deceased held a weapon which would justify the accused using the broad-knife. There was no evidence that the deceased had any weapon at all.

In his opinion there was also no evidence of self-defence at all, continued Mr Justice Reece. The evidence showed that the accused ran away from the fight to a bread-stall and picked up the bread-knife to go back to hack the deceased. The accused said the deceased was a bigger man, but according to the doctor the deceased was thin and suffering from advanced tuberculosis.

In the present case there was not the beginning of a defence of self-defence unless the Jury found the accused was in immediate danger of his life with no other means of resisting having retreated as far as he could. According to his own evidence the deceased had only attacked him with his fist. The Jury found he had acted in self-defence and the injuries

caused were an accident then they should acquit him, but they must be satisfied on the evidence that such a conclusion was justified.

PROVOCATION DOCTRINE

Mr Justice Reece read to the Jury the doctrine of provocation which would reduce the crime to manslaughter. The accused must satisfy the Jury that the dead man so provoked him that he suddenly lost his self-control rendering him so subject to passion as to make him not master of his mind at that time so that he used the broad-knife on the deceased. But there was no such evidence. The deceased was attacked on his way from a dinner with friends to a cafe for a cup of coffee.

"It is my duty to tell you that in this case there is no evidence for a finding of provocation and you are to ignore this defence," said the Judge withdrawing the verdict of manslaughter from the Jury.

He told the Jury that the verdicts they could return were guilty or not guilty of murder. If they had a reasonable doubt it must be given to the accused. If they agreed that the evidence warranted self-defence and it was justifiable homicide then they would have to return a verdict of not guilty.

Begged Only From Europeans

Standing in the dock before Mr Hin-shing Lo at Central this morning, Jose Maria Esteban Silva, 46, said in answer to a charge of vagrancy, "I never begged from Chinese, only from Europeans, because I suffer from epileptic fits and cannot work."

"Do you plead guilty to the charge?" asked the magistrate. Defendant, looking haggard and trembling violently, said "I'm very nervous, the European took me one prison for two days."

Inspector, howel Court Prosecutor, approached the dock and said "Do you admit begging from the European Police Inspector in plainclothes?"

Silva mumbled brokenly that he did beg and admitted having said that he needed the money to return to his ship.

Defendant was arrested on Monday morning by Sub-Insps. Apedale, whom he approached on Des Voeux Road Central opposite the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank.

Silva was remanded for 24 hours for the Police to confirm his British nationality. It was stated to be Hongkong born.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Turn his high chair around till I hide this! I don't want to destroy his faith in Santa Claus!"

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are for registered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times, can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office. The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23 By Air

Japan, 6 p.m.
Formosa, 6 p.m.
Philippines, 6 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24 By Air

India, Ceylon, 9 a.m.
Thailand, Burma, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain and Europe, 10 a.m.
Philippines, 11 a.m.
Japan, Noon.
Indo-China, Noon.
Formosa, 1 p.m.
Guam, Hawaii, U.S.A. and Canada, 1 p.m.
Thailand, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 6 p.m.
Formosa, Okinawa, Japan, U.S.A. and Canada, 8 p.m.

By Surface

China, People's Republic, 8.30 a.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.
Malaya, 3 p.m.
Macao, 6 p.m.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. Time Signal and Programme Summary: 6.00, Variety Requests presented by Margherita (Studio); 6.30, Weather Report; 7.00, Time Signal, World News and A Talk on the News (London Relay); 7.15, Orchestra of the Week—The New York Philharmonic, cond. by Anthony Collins; 7.45, Letter from America by Alistair Cooke (Rebroadcast from London Relay); 8.00, Concert from the Show; 8.30, Christmas Concert—Rena Keown (Morocco Soprano), John Medcalf (Baritone), with piano accompaniment by Moya Rea, Cheng Chik-pui (Violin), with piano accompaniment by Moya Rea, Caroline Braga (Piano) (Concert Hall); 9.00, Time Signal, Wednesday Theatre—Christmas is Coming by Ron Westcott Produced by the Author for the Garrison Players (Concert Hall); 9.30, The Three Suns Present your Christmas Wishes; 10.00, Time Signal, Variety (H.B.C.T.) The Epic Scottish Variety Orch. cond. by Guy Daines with Doreen Robertson (Soprano); 10.30, One Night Stand—Benny Goodman and his Orchestra; 10.50, Weather Report; 11.00, Time Signal, Radio News Reel (London Relay); 11.15, Goodnight Music; 11.30, Close Down.

'What's Her Line?' Solution
TICKET COLLECTOR
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